

TO SECURE FURTHER LEGISLATION

Then Village Will Be Enabled to "Construct, Purchase or Procure" Water Works—Four Steps Taken at Village Meeting Friday Night

More did not flow at the special village water meeting Friday night. It was a bloodless battle. Some of the big guns were loaded, but they were not discharged. Neither was the water board discharged. In anticipation of having some excitement probably 800 voters attended the meeting, crowding Festival hall. In one or two instances it was apparent that the peak-up ecstasy was on the verge of breaking out, but it was kept in confinement and an adjournment was reached 25 minutes after the meeting opened.

Four steps were taken: First, it was voted not to buy the two systems of water owned by George B. Crowell for \$250,000; second, Town Representative E. W. Gibson was requested to secure legislation which will enable the village to buy or construct a system of water works; third, the informal vote of June 29 approving the agreement to purchase Mr. Crowell's system and arbitrate as to the price was rescinded; fourth, it was voted to pass over the formal article relating to buying the two systems and fixing the price to be paid for them by arbitration.

John Galvin, chairman of the board of balliffs, called the meeting to order promptly at 8 o'clock and called to order W. D. Perry to read the warrant. At the conclusion of that formality Mr. Galvin announced that as he was a member of the water board he would ask Balliff A. F. Schwenk to preside at the meeting, and Mr. Schwenk took the chair and read the first article, which was as follows: "To see if the village will vote to purchase the Chestnut Hill reservoir system and the Sunset Lake reservoir system, at the price of \$250,000, the sum now asked for the same."

Counsel for the water board, J. L. Martin, was the first to take the floor. He spoke very briefly, concluding by saying that he trusted the meeting would vote "no" on the article. Several persons called for a ballot, whereupon Col. Kirtledge Haskins arose and said it was needless to waste time balloting, as he didn't believe anybody would vote "yes." He said that he should have moved to dismiss the article. "A vote of two or three for a ballot," said he, "does not mean that a ballot must be had."

Chairman Schwenk called for a viva voce vote and the thunderous "noes" dispersed the article in the negative, there being scarcely a vote the other way.

When article 2 was taken up Chairman James P. Hooker, of the water board, offered the following resolution:

Resolved: That the village request the town representative of the town of Brattleboro to take all proper measures to secure sufficient legislation to enable the village to construct, purchase or procure a system of water works, and also that the village rescind the vote taken June 29, 1906, in relation to arbitration.

The text of the article was: "To see if the village will vote to instruct our town representative to take measures to secure proper and sufficient legislation to enable the village to construct or purchase a system of water works, and to rescind the informal vote to instruct the water board to arbitrate, taken at the last meeting of the board."

At the request of Col. Haskins Clerk W. D. Perry read the agreement reached at the office of the probate court, between Mr. Crowell and his counsel and the water board and its counsel, which was that the village should buy the two systems

FEELBE MINDED GIRLS.

Effort Being Made To Establish a Home for Them in Vermont.

An effort is being made to find a home for feeble-minded girls in Vermont and the following extracts from the opening address of the Hon. William B. Stewart, president of the New York state board of charities, at the 25th annual session of the national conference of charities and corrections, seems to be timely as well as to the point.

into the public institutions and indeed into some of the private ones, find admission, from time to time, insane persons, feeble-minded, idiots, epileptics, and the deformed, for whom no separate asylum has been provided and who have become a source of disturbance to the inmates for whose care these institutions were opened. While the unfortunate themselves are condemned to needless suffering for want of the special care and attention their condition requires. Hence arises an intelligent demand for care for the insane, the criminal, the idiot and for other unfortunate.

The organic law of every state should explicitly acknowledge the obligation of its people to make provision for the destitute insane, idiotic, feeble-minded, deformed and epileptic, and the delinquent or criminal. The state owes no higher duty than the protection of its citizenship from the dangers and pollution incidental to the presence of these classes of persons. The people generally, nor is there a greater evil than increase of their kind. Wise public policy requires that these persons be removed from the community and that suitable custodial care or restraint should be provided by the state.

There should be no delay until abuses in private, municipal or county institutions enforce the extension of state care. Before the need has arisen, the compensation or demand for the promise made that the state will assume the care of all the classes of unfortunate or defective people named, whose relations are desirable to make suitable provision for them.

Mr. Stewart emphasized this fundamental principle, that it is the duty of the state to regard as its wards certain classes belonging to the classes called dependent or delinquent. This does not imply state maintenance for all, since many will be relieved or reformed by the public or private charity. It does imply, however, that wherever within the borders of the state the dependent and delinquent classes are found, the state should follow and cover them.

There is a uniform tendency toward a separation of the different classes cared for at public expense, and the placing of each distinct class under a separate head. Let me give a few extracts from a paper on "The Problem of the Feeble-Minded," by James C. Carson, M. D., superintendent, Syracuse state institute for feeble-minded children. After stating the benefits of education and training for these persons, he goes on to say:

Granting, however, that these children cannot be so educated and trained as to fully or properly care for themselves without supervision, what is to be their future, and what the future of those who are educated and trained in every community? Their number now over one hundred thousand in this country, precludes the hope of securing safe and complete tutelage for those dismissed after terms of training and yet left to their present environment and lack of control. We see among them imbecile women and girls everywhere an easy prey to the wiles and lust of brutal men and becoming mothers of children like themselves.

The abandonment of the original hope of elevating these children to a normal, mental and moral standard and an appalling increase in the ranks of the feeble-minded and insane, the criminal and the pauper have within recent years been more and more strongly attracting our attention to the possible prevention of feeble-mindedness. This question in our judgment takes precedence today over all others connected with this philanthropic body, in demanding a speedy solution.

This question takes its importance primarily from the fact that the ranks of the feeble-minded are being constantly multiplied by the feeble-minded, and secondly by the fact that they are prolific in the production of crime, pauperism, illegitimacy, insanity and epilepsy. In 1850 there were reported in the United States census 9149 idiots. The census of 1890 gives 35,571. The number of feeble-minded in 1890 was 100,000. In 1890 it was 1526. In other words, in 40 years, an increase in round numbers from 10,000 to 100,000. Of this number only about 7000 are provided for in public institutions especially designed for them. The fact that there has been such an increase in their number and that so many are unprotected and unprotected for is sufficiently deplorable in itself; but even more so is the fact that the increase of so many feeble-minded establishes a centre from which emanates an almost endless chain of evil. These 90,000 are not only a burden to their relatives and friends but also a burden to the state and to the public by their reproduction of other mental weaknesses, insanity, epilepsy, pauperism, illegitimacy and every form of degeneracy.

In June 1900 there were reported in the United States 106,000 insane, 40,000 deaf and dumb, 50,000 blind in both eyes, \$3,000,000 worth of property in the hands of feeble-minded persons and between 90,000 and 100,000 tramps. How many of these are either mentally feeble, or the progeny of feeble-minded parents? The reports of the famous Jukes family, of "Margaret, the Mother of Criminals," and others will answer this question. The late Dr. Isaac N. Kerlin, in speaking of the Jukes family, says:

The Jukes family, says:

Mr. and Mrs. John Luko and their little daughter and Joseph Popo, Polanders, were coming down the steep hill from Leyden Glen in a carriage Sunday when they met an automobile coming up the hill rapidly. The horse was away and the carriage struck a telephone pole with great force. All were thrown out. Popo, who was driven some distance, sustained internal injuries and a flesh wound in the back which was 14 inches long. Luko was injured about the head and had one rib broken. The woman and child were under the carriage. Mrs. Luko was injured about the shoulders and was cut on the right side and the child was badly bruised. The people in the automobile did not stop.

Thou who hast made thy dwelling fair With flowers beneath, above with stars, And set thine altars everywhere— On mountain heights, In woodlands—thou with many a dream, In valleys—thou with springs, And on the curving capes of every stream, Thou who hast taken to thyself the wings Of morning to abide Upon the secret pines of the sea, And on the peaks of untroubled shores, Waiting for worshippers to come to thee In thy great, out-of-doors, To thee I turn, to thee I make my prayer, God of the open air.

—[Henry Van Dyke.

ing of moral imbecility, once stated that he had "examined and questioned many tramps and was ready to swear that the tramp is a low, cunning imbecile." We know not how many prostitutes our country harbors, but how much more even would they become objects of our pity, were we to know the number of them in whom mental weakness was the cause of their loathsome condition.

Howard Edwards, a philanthropist of Philadelphia, who has spent many years in the rescue of fallen women, once stated that he felt "the cause of prostitution to be a mainly mental and moral instability or imbecility and not downright wantonness." And so with the criminal, for G. R. Brockway of the Elmira reformatory, reports in 1463 examinations, 1902 as having absolutely no moral sense. And he gives as his opinion that "something that may be called imbecility lies at the foundation of a vast amount of crime." What then is the panorama that confronts us? Not alone an appalling number of unfortunate demanding our sympathy and care, but, in addition to that, a mighty host of defective, without custody or protection, procreating others of their kind and constantly increasing the ranks of every form of degeneracy.

It is obvious then that something in the nature of prevention is a duty of paramount importance to the welfare of society and the state. A study of the records of our institutions will convince the most skeptical that direct heredity is one of the greatest sources, if not the greatest source of supply to this increasing number of degenerates. Among many similar instances, Dr. Carson gave the following:

"Some years ago a philanthropic gentleman brought us two imbecile girls from a private, municipal or county institution. He said to me with considerable feeling and emphasis, 'Doctor, I hope you will take good care of these girls and keep them in custody as long as they live. Each of them has relatives in nearly every town in our country not one of whom but is imbecile, insane, epileptic, a criminal a drunkard, a pauper, a prostitute, a delinquent, scattered here and there throughout the land, who are constantly adding to the general plethora of feeble-mindedness, we believe that humanity, economy, the protection of society and the prevention of degeneracy, demand the permanent sequestration of the entire body of the feeble-minded within our borders in institutions. Especially should we take custody and state guardianship and ply to every feeble-minded girl and woman of child bearing age."

A very large part, perhaps one-half of the feeble-minded in this country, are about us, in, we believe, avertible. In the near future we believe an educated public and ensuing prohibitory legislation must be enacted to prevent the increase of these evils spring and prevent them.

Who is Kuroki?

A story is going the rounds in India, according to the Army and Navy Journal, that the brilliant Japanese military commander, General Kuroki, is none other than Major General Sir Hector MacDonald of the British army, whose tragic death after the close of the Boer war was one of the startling after-effects of that conflict. A Journal correspondent writes that the brilliant English general is dead, and not long ago there appeared in the London Times an offer of a reward of £1000 for the capture of Kuroki, who was once invited to go to Japan to train the Japanese army. No honor has ever been publicly bestowed on Kuroki, who appears to have vanished as mysteriously as he appeared. Even the Japanese, with all their reticence, confessed to a Kuroki, but Kuroki, he said, was a foreign blood in him, and one United States journalist declared he was an Englishman. It will be remembered that MacDonald is supposed to have shot himself in Paris when he learned that he would have to stand serious and disgraceful charges.

Forest Preservation in New York.

A special committee of the New York legislature has just completed an inspection of important parts of the Adirondack region. The trip was made by way of Utica to the mountains, and continued by train, boat and wagon to Lake Champlain. The committee found that the increasing pressure of the lumber trade, and the serious menace to the forests. While no trees can be cut from state reservations, there is no restriction applying to private lands, and the latter are liable to be stripped. It is stated that scientific forestry is producing good results. Trees planted five and six years ago have attained a height of several feet, and are now healthy and hardy. New tracts are now being covered with young trees of rapid growth. By pursuing this policy, and by adding to the preserve to the extent that funds will permit, the state hopes to create constantly enlarging areas of permanent woodland.

A wrong impression has gone out about our present village water supply and the protection which it affords in case of fire. There is an abundance of water in the Chestnut Hill reservoir, at least four or five more feet than has been usual at this season, and a good supply is running at the different pipe lines, including that from Stickney brook and Pleasant valley. The West river pump has not been in use for two weeks, and was only used two weeks in all while the drought was at the worst. Last Sunday water, which appeared to be perfectly clear and clean, was running in the Stickney brook intake in a volume equal to at least two thirds the capacity of the 12-inch main which runs out into Pleasant valley.

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DR. H. L. WATERMAN, Office and residence, 41 Elliot St. Office hours, 12.30 to 2.30; evening, 6 to 8.

C. N. ALDRICH, M. D., Union block. Office hours until 9 a. m., 1 to 3 p. m., and 7 to 9 p. m.

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C. G. WHEELER, D. O., OSTEOPATHIC PHYSICIAN, 30 North Main street, Brattleboro. Office hours 9 to 12 and 1.30 to 4, Wednesdays and Saturdays excepted.

DR. C. S. CLARK, Whitney block, Brattleboro. Telephone.

DR. G. F. BARBER, DENTIST, Union block, Brattleboro.

C. B. CROWELL, SURVEYOR, Brattleboro, Vt.

DR. ALVIN KNAPP, DENTIST, Hooker block, Brattleboro.

DR. L. S. EDWARDS, DENTIST, Hooker block, Main St. Telephone.

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H. G. BARBER, ATTORNEY AT LAW, 85 Main St. Settlements of estates in probate court given special attention.

JOHN E. GALE, ATTORNEY AT LAW, 85 Main St. Connected with the probate court.

CLINTON M. DUGAN, VIOLIN TEACHER, Tyler St. Telephone, 146-31.

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Legal Notices.

STATE OF VERMONT, Marlboro, SS. By the Probate Court for said District, CHARLES F. BRACKETT, late of Guilford, in said district, deceased, and decree distribution thereof to be held at the Probate Office in Brattleboro, in said district, on the 27th day of October, A. D. 1906, when and where you may be heard in the premises, if you see cause.

41-43 A. F. SCHWENK, Register.

STATE OF VERMONT, Marlboro, SS. By the Probate Court for said District, CHARLES F. BRACKETT, late of Guilford, in said district, deceased, and decree distribution thereof to be held at the Probate Office in Brattleboro, in said district, on the 27th day of October, A. D. 1906, when and where you may be heard in the premises, if you see cause.

41-43 A. F. SCHWENK, Register.

STATE OF VERMONT, Marlboro, SS. To all persons interested in the estate of HAZELTON RICE, late of Brattleboro, deceased, Whereas, Orlean W. Smith has presented to this court a petition for probate of the last will of said deceased, for probate:—You are hereby notified that this court will decide upon the probate of said instrument at the session thereof to be held at the Probate Office in Brattleboro, in said district, on the 27th day of October, A. D. 1906, when and where you may appear and contest the same, if you see cause.

41-43 A. F. SCHWENK, Register.

COMMISSIONER'S NOTICE.

ESTATE OF W. H. HENLEY. The undersigned having been appointed by the Honorable Probate Court for the District of Marlboro Commissioners, to receive, examine and adjust all claims and demands of all persons against the estate of W. H. Henley, late of Brattleboro, in said district, and all claims exhibited in offset thereto, hereby give notice that we will meet for the purpose aforesaid at the Vermont Phoenix office on the 15th day of November and the 30th day of March, next, from 1 o'clock p. m. until 4 o'clock p. m. of said days, and that six months from the first day of October, A. D. 1906, is the time limited by said Court for said creditors to present their claims to us for examination and allowance.

Dated at Brattleboro, this 15th day of October, A. D. 1906.

O. L. FRENCH, JOHN R. PLUMMER, Commissioners.

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DON A. WILDER.

BONDVILLE

Sprague Burbank and family have returned to New York.

J. M. Kendall has been repairing, papering and painting his tenement house.

Frank Dawson has moved to Sprague Burbank's house. He will take care of the stock and look out for farming interests.

Mrs. B. F. Williams sold her farm, stock, farming tools and all the personal effects she did not wish to keep at auction Saturday. The farm was bid off by F. B. Pier.

G. L. Burbank was returning from the auction Saturday when the harness broke on the sheep hill. Mr. Burbank and Cassie Conroy, who had joined him for the ride home, were thrown out. Mr. Burbank was lamed by the fall and Cassie was badly bruised. A deep anal was cut in her head and Dr. Brigham was called to sew up the wound. The wagon and harness will need repairing.

John Barrett Offers Two More Prizes to Vermont Academy.

Vermont academy entertained its former student and benefactor, John Barrett, United States minister to Colombia, Monday. Mr. Barrett is a native of the country in the interests of Colombia. He went to Boston in the afternoon. While at the school house he announced the establishment of two prizes, which he will award the students each year. A gold medal will be given to the best all-around athlete, to be selected by a vote of the school through a committee composed of members of the three school fraternities. A prize of \$10 will be awarded the best girl debater. This is an addition to the already established prize debate for boys only, held at each commencement. He also announced that through personal efforts a number of young people are becoming interested in the school and substantial financial aid may be anticipated in the near future.



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